



This petition supports the The City of Ann Arbor's efforts to create bike lanes on Barton Drive between Pontiac Trail and M-14. The signed petitioners ask City Council to **vote YES for the road reconstruction plan WITH bike lanes and WITHOUT on-street parking. The City will vote on January 13, 2020 at 7 pm.** The City of Ann Arbor recommends installing bike lanes on Barton Drive during road reconstruction starting in April 2020. On-street parking will have to be prohibited. This is the last section of Barton Drive still lacking a bike lane, from Pontiac Trail to M-14, and still allowing on-street parking. Some residents would rather keep the on-street parking, and have mounted a very vocal and forceful opposition to bike lanes and have filed a petition for this reason, arguing that bike lanes would be less safe and increase congestion. The city is likely to eliminate the bike lane addition unless they hear from supporters of bike lanes coupled with elimination of on-street parking. I live on the affected stretch of the road, ride my bike every day for a weekly total of 70 miles, to work, shopping, appointments, and ride with my children when possible. Getting rid of parking and adding a bike lane would make our bike trips vastly safer due to better visibility and because parking cars would no longer force us onto this very busy road. Please sign this petition if you support bike lanes and oppose on-street parking for the following good reasons:

1. The City has already made the decision that bike lanes are needed to support non-motorized traffic in a safe way and to complete the Barton Drive bike lane already present from Pontiac Trail to Plymouth Rd.
2. Foregoing bike lanes on the basis of arguments that bikes would make getting around MORE dangerous is a dangerous precedent because it is a FALSE premise at odds with all data, and the City would essentially concede that bikes somehow are bad for safety.

3. Parking cars are a hazard to bicyclists and pedestrians, forcing bikes into the flow of heavy traffic, and requiring crossing pedestrians to stick their necks out to see the traffic.
4. Everywhere where bike lanes are added, safety improves, and this is supported by actual data. Property values also increase where bike lanes are present.
5. Lots of people in the neighborhood ride their bikes daily on this stretch of the road even in the winter. Even more people from farther away and for recreation ride their bikes this way to access the Whitmore Lake Rd corridor and the Argo Pond stretch of the B2B trail. There are more people riding their bikes this way than residents who would park here (there are 24 houses here).
6. Every bicyclist subtracts one car from car traffic on the road, making congestion less than it otherwise would be, buffering pedestrians from cars, even when bikes are not present.
7. Everybody would be safer without parking and with bike lanes, and the impact would be minimal compared to the benefits.
8. There is more than ample room for cars and bikes, so much so, that even parking cars fit.
9. With bike lanes, this road would look like Barton Dr on the other side of Pontiac Trail, Pontiac Trail, Liberty Street, Pauline Boulevard, Packard Rd. and many others with bike lanes.